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<b>(21) International Application Number:</b> PCT/GB00/00280 <b>(22) International Filing Date:</b> 1 February 2000 (01.02.00) <b>(30) Priority Data:</b> 9902591.8 6 February 1999 (06.02.99) GB 9902594.2 6 February 1999 (06.02.99) GB <b>(71) Applicants (for all designated States except US):</b> AS-TRAZENECA UK LIMITED [GB/GB]; 15 Stanhope Gate, London W1Y 6LN (GB). THE UNIVERSITY COURT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN [GB/GB]; Regent Walk, Aberdeen AB24 3FX (GB). <b>(72) Inventors; and</b> <b>(76) Inventors/Applicants (for US only):</b> CAMERON, Norman, Eugene [GB/GB]; Institute of Medical Sciences, Diabetic Complications Laboratory, Foresterhill, Aberdeen AB25 2ZD (GB). COTTER, Mary, Anne [GB/GB]; Institute of Medical Sciences, Diabetic Complications Laboratory, Foresterhill, Aberdeen AB25 2ZD (GB). <b>(74) Agent:</b> BROWN, Andrew, Stephen; AstraZeneca UK Limited, Global Intellectual Property, Mereside, Alderley Park, Macclesfield, Cheshire SK10 4TG (GB).		<b>(81) Designated States:</b> AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).  <b>Published</b> <i>With international search report.</i> <i>Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i>	

**(54) Title:** USE OF 3-HYDROXY-3-METHYLGLUTARYL COENZYME A REDUCTASE INHIBITORS FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF A MEDICAMENT FOR THE TREATMENT OF DIABETIC NEUROPATHY**(57) Abstract**

The present invention relates to a new use of a statin drug in the improvement of diabetic neuropathy, specifically in improving nerve conduction velocity and nerve blood flow in patients suffering diabetes, in particular to pharmaceutical combinations of the statin drug and other agents known to improve diabetic neuropathy such as an aldose reductase inhibitor (ARI), an angiotensin converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitor or an angiotensin II (AII) antagonist which combinations are useful in the prevention and treatment of the complications of diabetes.